NATURAL NEWS

The Field Museum
Exploring
The Earth And Its
People

Weekly Staff Newsletter
September 18, 1998

Winning With Teamwork: Employees honored for outstanding public service

At the quarterly Public Services Recognition Reception held on Monday, September 14, the following individuals were nominated by their departments to honor their outstanding service.

From the Security Department: **Karlyn Gary-Morris, Stacey Robinson,** and **Warren Mills**.

From the Visitor Services Department: **Gloria Lucas, Lysette Bell, Michael Sherman,** and **Cody Lassen**.

From the Housekeeping Department: **James Crumb**.

Larry Thompson of the Engineering Department was the honorary guest at the reception.

Three winners of Employee of the Month were also recognized: **Karlyn Gary-Morris** (July), **Cody Lassen** (August), and **Lysette Bell** (September). The Employee of the Quarter was **Cody Lassen**.

Parking Alert
We've got good news and bad news . . .

The East Museum parking lot is once again open for staff parking, but as we all know, it fills up quickly in the morning, so get here bright and early!

The Soldier Field lot will not be accepting staff parking passes on the following Bears game days (all of them Sundays): September 27, October 4 & 18, November 8 & 29, December 20 & 27. You may park in the lot on those days, but you will have to pay full price for parking. If you are working on those days, consider making alternate arrangements: have someone drop you off, or plan to take public transportation if you can.

FIELD NOTES

Week of September 21

Public Events/Special Events

Rosh Hashanah
- Monday and Tuesday

Chicago Mountaineering Club
- Monday, 6 p.m. in LH1

Summit on Africa
- Wednesday, 9 a.m. in Clrms ABC
- Thursday, 9 a.m. in Clrm C
- Friday, 9 a.m. in Clrms ABC, LH1 & LH2
- Saturday, 9 a.m. in Clrm C, LH1 & LH2

Chicago Fire vs. New England
- Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

Baxter event (600 people)
- Thursday evening in SFH

Music Theater Workshop
- Friday, 5 p.m. in Maori House

Group Overnight
- Friday thru Saturday morning

Staff/Volunteer Events

Aerobics Class
Outside Philippines exhibit
- Tuesday and Thursday, 5 p.m.

Volunteer Training Session
- Wednesday, 9 a.m. in LH2

Congratulations to promoted Museum Affairs staff members

Please join me in congratulating **Sophia Shaw**, **Rich Faron**, and **Melissa Hilton** on their recent promotions.

Sophia Shaw has been named Director of Exhibits. In addition to her responsibilities for the Temporary Exhibition program, Sophia will take on the responsibility for leading our exhibit design and production activities.

Rich Faron has been named Director of Exhibit Development. In this role, he will be responsible for the overall creative and intellectual leadership of the development of exhibit programs as well as building and leading the Exhibit Development team.

Both Rich and Sophia will report directly to me. They make a great leadership team and, together with the expertise and support of the departmental managers, will ensure the continued growth and success of The Field Museum's world-class exhibits program.

Melissa Hilton's role has also changed. She is now Director of Administration and Communications for Museum Affairs and will bring additional attention and focus to communications strategy and planning, and oversee our marketing and public relations functions. In this role, Melissa will continue to report to the Vice President of Museum Affairs.

Submitted by **Laura Gates**

Many pizzas make light work

The Campaign Office would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to all who helped us mail more than 5,500 invitations for the September 30 Royal Society event honoring **Peter Crane**.

An especially big THANK YOU goes out to **Jean Cattell**, **Margaret Metz**, and **Sadie Ryan** for going beyond the call of duty. Also, special thanks go out to **Karlyn Morris-Gary** and **Anita Purnell** for their assistance with event details and to **Kathleen Donofrio** and the Rice Wildlife Resource Center volunteers.

The rest of the list is long and impressive: **Karsten Lawson**, **Mark Alvey**, **Jane Dukek**, **Erica Kelly**, **Amy Varsak**, **Veitrice Thompson**, **Sandy Karuschak**, **Margaret Ketcham**, **Marianne Dunn**, **Charles Katzenmeyer**, **Rodger Patience**, **Jackie Adams**, **Tyana Wachter**, **Johanna Krynytzky**, **Maria Burns**, **Doris Yelvington**, **Lisa Niziolek**, **Mark Schmeltzer**, **Gretchen Baker**, **Mary Anne Rogers**, **Sophie Twichell**, **Beth Marquardt**, **Shawn VanDerziel**, **Joanna Surveyor**, **Carole Kasarda**, **Cindy Oakes**, **Madelyn Thompson**, **Chris Molzahn**, **Kris Jadd**, **Tina Bentz**, **Amanda Geppert**, **Veatrice Lampkins**, **Hershey Escudero**, **Derek Kleckner**, **Stacy Rhoads**, **Stephanie Powell**, and **Helen Green**.

Finally, thank you to **Frantz Eliacin** and **Melvin Ghoston** for processing and mailing the invitations. Thanks to all of you, our "Will Feed for Work" campaign was a huge success!

Submitted by **Janet Young**

Education wants your great ideas!

We're sorry to have missed you at the "Brainstorm Planning Session" held by the Education Department to solicit input for program ideas for the Spring and Summer quarters. The good news is that it is still not too late to contribute your ideas! Please share any ideas that coincide with exhibits or events for the Spring quarter (March, April or May) by contacting **Kristie Webber** or **Sue Stott** before October 1. If you have ideas for the Summer quarter (June, July or August), please submit them by January 1. We encourage all staff, volunteers, and representatives from organizations outside the Museum to contribute ideas for programming. We are also looking for interdepartmental and community connections, resources for programming contacts, and issues and/or concerns that should be addressed in preparing programs. Your insights are very valuable to us!

Submitted by **Sue Stott**

MINUTES FROM THIS MONTH'S KAFFEEKLATSCH

This month's Kaffeeklatsch meeting focused on planning events for our employees. John McCarter appeared in our meeting to give suggestions and comments that might help staff become more familiar with our Museum and meet more of our **CREW**. We have formed a sub-committee to organize upcoming events for staff. More details will be shared in next month's Kaffeeklatsch minutes. Also, we previewed a video created by our very own Stephen Bell and Elizabeth Crownover from Education about our voice mail system. Our Kaffeeklatsch committee will soon plan a training session for employees wanting to learn more about voice mail.

OUR SUGGESTIONS FROM THE BOX

S: Now since we have new ways of identifying the levels of the Museum, are we going to change the information in the elevators to correspond with the wayfinding guides?

A: Yes, a plan has been put in motion to change the information in the elevators.

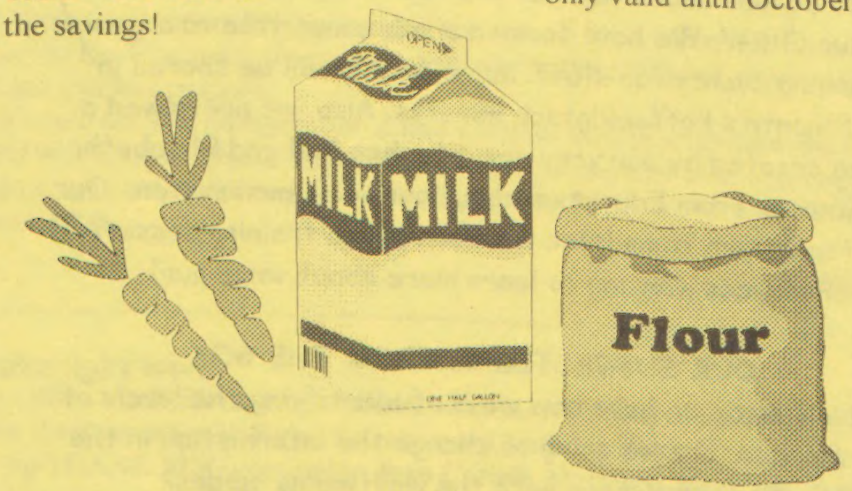
S: Why are staff the last to know about Museum happenings? I heard on the radio about the Museum getting a new Man-Eating Lion.

A: The Museum tries hard to inform employees about upcoming events. You can find information on our web-site (www.fmnh.org), on the intranet (staff web-site), or in the Natural News, a good way to find out information about what new events are happening.

Feel free to put suggestions in the box
by the operator on the ground floor.

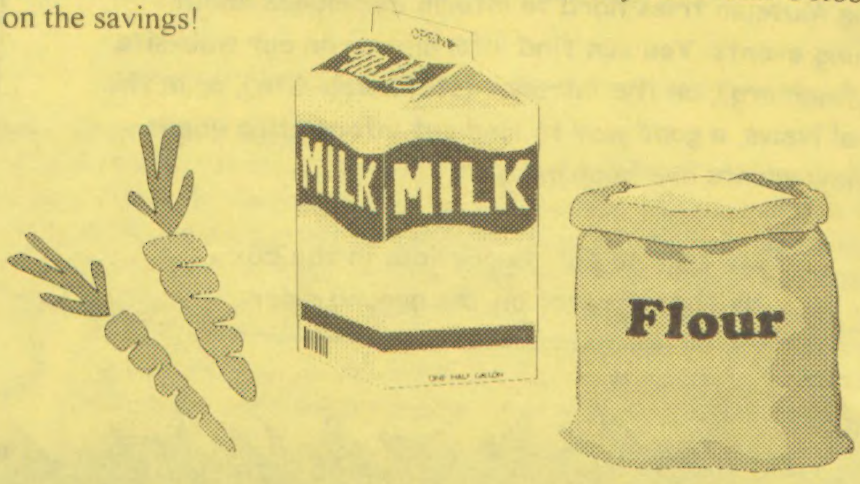
GUEST PASSES TO SAM'S CLUB!

You are welcome to enjoy one-day savings at **SAM'S CLUB** at *no cost*. The Human Resources department will have these passes available at a first come first serve basis. This offer is only valid until October 31st, so get in on the savings!



GUEST PASSES TO SAM'S CLUB!

You are welcome to enjoy one-day savings at **SAM'S CLUB** at *no cost*. The Human Resources department will have these passes available at a first come first serve basis. This offer is only valid until October 31st, so get in on the savings!



THANKS FOR A GREAT SUMMER!

Interns and Summer Staff who ended employment in August

Melissa Anderson	Geology
Sonja Berg	Academic Affairs
Anna Bohrer	Zoology – Insects
Guerino Bruno	Academic Affairs
William Bulfer	Visitor Services
Luigi Cardella	Geology
Matthew Carrano	Geology
William Jobe	Zoology – Insects
Jennifer Johnson	Geology
Amanda Kraus	Education
Siyi Li	Academic Affairs
Walter Markham	Visitor Services
Bettina Marshall	Museum Store
Ryan Meher	Academic Affairs
Charles Mutscheller	Education
Alynna Nielsen	Visitor Services
Andrew Faison	Visitor Services
Erica Fierro	Academic Affairs
Jennifer Francis	Anthropology
Belinda Hernandez	Academic Affairs
Melinda Hickman	Visitor Services
Raquel Hoard	Membership
Marietto Jeffries	Budget
Sylvie Perret	Visitor Services
Harry Preckwinkle	Zoology – Insects
Agatha Sajewicz	Geology
Jonathan Sperry	Education
Nancy Srivastava	Education
Emily Walker	Zoology – Mammals
Quentin Washington	Visitor Services
Sally Weinstein	Exhibits
Robin Whatley	Geology

CONGRATULATIONS!

Staff who changed positions or were promoted in August

	From:	**To:**
Lynnetta Brown	Education Scheduling Specialist	Group Scheduling Supervisor
Christine Ochoa	Housekeeping Supervisor	Security Officer II
Jeanette Watson	Visitor Services Supervisor	Housekeeping Supervisor

WELCOME! *Staff who began employment in August*

Jacqueline Adams	Millennium Project	Administrative Assistant
Christina Bentz	Environmental/Conservation	Intern
Richard Blob	Geology	Sr. Coll. Management Assist
Kimberly Gray	Security Services	Security Officer I
Matthew Groves	Geology	Fossil Preparator
Collin Harvey	Membership	Membership Sales Rep
Bruce Heimbach	Exhibits	Exhibits Preparator I
Jeffrey Hunt	Zoology – Birds	Research Technician
Maureen King	Millenium Project	Public Relations Coord.
Michael Klinefelter	Museum Store	Store Supervisor
Lisa Niziolek	Education	Secretary II
Paula Ramos	Education	Intern
Amanda Reeves	Exhibits	Graphic Designer I
Nancy Shuttleworth	Education	Project Director
Abigail Sinwell	Museum Affairs	Special Projects Manager
Neil Young	Scientific Computer Services	Computer Systems Specialist

GOODBYE and GOOD LUCK! *Staff who ended employment in August*

David Beamer	Zoology/Amph and Reptiles	Collections Assistant
April Blazevic	Exhibits	Exhibit Preparator I
John Brust	Facility Planning	Stationary Engineer
Boysie Caison	Visitor Services	Visitor Services Rep
Ann Crawley	Public Services	Training Coordinator
Thomas Czajkowski	Exhibits	Exhibits Preparator II
Jaime Green	Auxiliary Services	Administrative Assist
Scott Habiger	Museum Store	Sales Clerk III
Michael Huhndorf	Botany	MS Science I
Koyo Konishi	Exhibits	Exhibits Preparator I
Kim Robinson	Security Services	Security Officer I
Rosalyn Taylor	Housekeeping	Housekeeper I
Ray Van Hook	Security Services	Safety Manager
Lee Weigt	Scientific Tech Services	Manager, Biochem Labs
Jane Zimmerman	Zoology – Insects	MS Science II

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Wali presents findings of Harlem Birth Right Study in Atlanta

Alaka Wali (Anthropology) was invited to present the significant findings of the Harlem Birth Right Study on gender roles and health risks for African-American women at a two-day conference in Atlanta sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control. The conference attendees included both anthropologists and public health officials. The conference found that there were remarkably similar results about the causes of stressors and risk factors in New York, Atlanta and Los Angeles. These findings will be presented to a larger conference of public health officials and policy makers in February 1999.

Cox publishes reptile field guide

The Division of Amphibians and Reptiles is pleased to announce the publication of *A Photographic Guide to Snakes and Other Reptiles of Peninsular Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand* by **Merel J. Cox**, Peter Paul van Dijk, Jarujin Nabhitabhata, and Kumthorn Thirakhupt. This very handy and attractive 144 page field guide includes numerous color illustrations and plenty of useful natural history information on more than 100 species of reptiles. Merel J. Cox is a Field Associate in the Department of Zoology and he has collaborated with **Harold Voris** (Zoology) on research on aquatic snakes in southern Thailand since 1995.

Asian Ceramics Conference: A Museum pacesetter

The Asian Ceramics conference scheduled for October 23-25 is proving to be a role model for inter-departmental cooperation on a project by the entire Field Museum family.

Special thanks for intricate photography by **John Weinstein**, for outreach to Founders' Council members by Patricia and Richard Schnadig, who chair this most supportive group of donors, and to **Petra Sierwald** (Zoology) who shared her experience in hosting the very successful international spider conference. We are grateful for publicity by **Robert Vosper**, editor of *In The Field*. We also appreciate the solid back-office support by **Stacey Rhoads** (Development), and **Paula Robinson** (Finance) who handles credit card registration – an innovation of this conference.

We have received a strong response from professional organizations and individuals from all over the United States as well as a welcome number of registrants from overseas. For more information, visit the conference website at **www.fmnh.org/candr/anthro_sites/acro** or e-mail to **Malcolm Smith** at ho@fmnh.org. You may also phone ext. 832.

News from Museum Campus Chicago

- Please welcome **Cheryl Giznik**, the newest member of the Museum Campus staff. Cheryl, who was a Programming Intern Supervisor for twelve interns during the Campus' inaugural summer, will continue her internship on a part-time basis at the Campus. Her extension is 586.
- Museum Campus Chicago's first summer of successful programming has concluded. We are now in the process of evaluating the first summer and planning for next year's activities. We would like to thank all the Field Museum departments who helped us achieve our goal.
- The Chicago Park District is offering free historical walking tours of Grant Park, Jackson Park and Lincoln Park through September and early October. Brochures are available in the Campus office or by calling the Chicago Park District at (312)745-2705.

Submitted by **Christina Breslow**

Is your wardrobe ready for a change of season?

Eddie Bauer is extending a 20% discount to Field Museum staff and volunteers on all full-priced merchandise. This discount is available Thursday through Sunday, September 24-27, 1998. You will need to show your ID badge in order to receive the discount. For more details, stop by Human Resources to pick up a flyer or call **Carole Kasarda** at ext. 529.

$$ FINANCE FORUM $$

It is that time of year again: budget preparation time. For those who have not participated in this process and may be wondering what you are missing, or if you need a reminder of what the purpose of the process is, following is a rationale for the budgeting process:

A budget is a plan for getting and spending money to reach specific goals by a certain time. Any budget or plan is only as good as the time, effort, and information people put into it. Good budget practices should foster collaboration and exchange of information among the budget team participants. No budget or plan is perfect, since none of us can totally predict the future. In order to reach our goals, all budgets and plans must be monitored and changed as time goes on.

The top priority of any not-for-profit should be staying solvent, and a budget is the optimum tool for promoting this goal. It provides the financial and operational guidance needed to implement board policies and directives. It allows management to measure and guide the organization's immediate and long-term financial health and operational effectiveness. Budgets help integrate administrative, staff, and operating activities. The basic nature of budgeting is thoughtful and deliberate, it is inclusive, and it is an ongoing process. Please bear this in mind when creating your plans for the future.

Food services updates

- Due to the expected increased festival attendance, temporary food services will be in operation in the Picnic in the Field area on September 19, 20 and 25. Carlyn Berghoff Catering will operate in the Picnic in the Field area to compensate for McDonald's being under construction on these anticipated heavy attendance days. Cold sandwiches, chips, dessert bars and beverages will be offered for sale between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. each day.
- Corner Bakery will be changing its menu selection at the beginning of October. New sandwiches, salads and soups will be offered for the fall season.
- McDonald's construction has been delayed by a few days. The opening date will not be October 1, as previously communicated. Look for an updated opening schedule in the next issue of *Natural News*.

Submitted by **Laura Sadler**

Stressed out?

The kids are back in school, the holidays are quickly approaching, the days are getting shorter and your stress level is on the rise!

On Tuesday, September 29, 1998, Green Spring, our Employee Assistance Program company, will conduct a Brown Bag Lunch seminar addressing Stress Management. This workshop will discuss signals of stress, balancing your life's responsibilities and skills to cope with stress.

Date: September 29, 1998
Time: Noon until 1 p.m.
Place: Dining Room C & D

Submitted by **Carole Kasarda**

Natural News

The *Natural News* is edited by **Rodger Patience** in the Development office (ext. 617, patience@fmnh.org) and **Erica Kelly** in the Finance Department (ext. 584, ekelly@fmnh.org). Submissions are welcome via e-mail or on disk in Microsoft Word or WordPerfect format. The deadline for submissions is Tuesday at noon. Remember – write early and often!